

CLAIM SET AS AMENDED

1. (Currently Amended) A rod-shaped article forming device comprising:

a travel path along which an endless garniture tape travels while passing through a wrapping section thereof,

a forming guide disposed in the wrapping section of said travel path to support a back surface of the garniture tape, said forming guide bending the garniture tape during a travelling process thereof to form the garniture tape into an arc in view of a cross section thereof, thereby wrapping in wrapping paper a material supplied onto the wrapping paper in a ~~traveling~~travelling process of the wrapping paper together with the garniture tape to continuously form a rod-shaped article, and

a pair of guide members for guiding the garniture tape at upstream and downstream sides of the wrapping section of said travel path, forming the garniture tape, in view of a cross section thereof, into a arc that is convex in reverse to a cross section thereof formed by said forming guide, and guiding the garniture tape while pulling both side edges thereof more than a central part thereof toward an inner side of said travel path in order to offset an increment of tension that is produced on the both side edges of said garniture tape due to the guidance of said forming guide,

wherein said guide members are a pair of guide rollers arranged in upstream and downstream sides of the wrapping section with the wrapping section interposed therebetween in said travel path, the guide rollers each including a guide surface having a cross section of

an arc that is convex in reverse to a cross section of said garniture tape formed by said forming guide in a travelling direction of the garniture tape, and
further comprising a positioning mechanism capable of positioning said guide rollers with respect to a transverse direction of said travel path.

2. Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The rod-shaped article forming device according to ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein said guide rollers each include the guide surface having the cross section that is so determined as to make travel length of the both side edges and that of the central part of the garniture tape on said travel path substantially uniform.

4. (Cancelled)